

Ser. No. 10/031,077

Reply to Office Action of 12 February 2004

Atty Docket 117035-11

REMARKS**Claim status**

Claims 1-15, 18-23 and 28 were pending in this matter on the date of the Office Action. The Examiner has indicated that claims 3 and 9 would be allowable if in independent form. For that reason, claim 1 is amended above to incorporate the limitations of claims 18 and 3, making it an independent equivalent of claim 3, and rendering it allowable.

Similarly, claim 28 is amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 19 and 9, making it an independent equivalent of claim 9, and rendering it allowable.

With these amendments made, claims 3, 9, 18 and 19 are cancelled.

Claims 4, 7 and 10 are amended to either change claim dependencies or to correct antecedent basis problems.

New dependent claim 29 is identical to claim 2 and depends from independent claim 28 exactly as claim 2 depends from claim 1.

35 USC §102 Rejections**Goodson (US 636,133)**

Claims 1, 2, 18, 19 and 28 stand rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 636,133 to Goodson ("Goodson '133"). These rejections are mooted by the incorporation of the claim 3 and 18 limitations into claim 1 and by the incorporation of the claim 9 and 19 limitations into claim 28.

In view of the foregoing arguments the applicant submits that the claims are in a condition to permit allowance. Therefore the applicant requests early and favorable disposition of this application.

Although the undersigned attorney is now resident in the Columbus, Ohio, office of Hahn Loeser + Parks LLP, any written correspondence in this matter (including faxes) should still be directed to the Akron, Ohio office address provided below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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